

a transparent material having a first side with a contact surface which receives a fingertip of a user;

a source of optical radiation disposed on [one] a second side of the transparent material, the source directing the radiation through the transparent material for reflection by the fingertip on the contact surface; and

detectors disposed on [one] the second side of the transparent material, the detectors positioned to receive radiation reflected by the fingertip and generating electrical signals in response to the detected radiation.

3. (Amended) The optical module of claim 2, wherein the substrate is disposed between the detectors and the source of optical radiation, the detectors facing the contact surface, which surface receives the fingertip.

28. (Amended) The optical module of claim 27 wherein the optical barrier has walls surrounding the [photodiode] photo sensitive transistor and extending in a direction of the contact surface, and wherein the optical barrier has an opening facing the contact surface and allowing the reflected light to be incident on the photosensitive transistor.

34. (Amended) The optical module of claim 1, further comprising an optical lens positioned between the source of optical radiation and the detectors, the optical lens projecting reflected light onto the detectors and wherein the detectors are at least one detector.

40. (Amended) The optical module of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of optical fibers having distal ends proximal ends which face the transparent material, a first group of distal ends facing the source of the optical radiation to guide light to the transparent material and a second group of distal ends facing the detectors to guide the reflected light, which represents an image of the fingertip, to the detectors, and wherein the detectors are at least one detector.

43. (Amended) The system of claim [41] 42, wherein the optical module further comprises a contact element located within the contact surface, the contact element being electrically conducting and exposed to be touched by the object.

74. (Amended) The sensor of claim [72] 73, further comprising a circuit which converts the electrical signal into an electronic representation of the object.

75. (Amended) The sensor of claim [72] 73, wherein each pixel comprises an optical barrier which optically isolates the source and the photosensitive element.

REMARKS

It was noted in the office action of February 25, 2003 as well as previous office actions and telephonic interviews that the claims as filed in the pending application "were replete with problems of dependencies, enablement and indefiniteness."